

What is claimed is:

1. A multicast system comprising:

a sender terminal for transmitting multicast data;

a receiver terminal for receiving multicast data;

an authentication server processor for managing the sender terminal and the

5 receiver terminal;

a first user processor provided in the sender terminal for transmitting a login requirement to the authentication server processor; and

a second user processor provided in the receiver terminal for transmitting a login requirement to the authentication server processor.

10

2. A multicast system according to claim 1, wherein the sender terminal encrypts multicast data and transmits encrypted multicast data to the receiver terminal when the first user processor transmits the login requirement to the authentication server processor and when the authentication server processor permits login.

3. A multicast system according to claim 1, wherein the receiver terminal registered in the authentication server processor decrypts encrypted multicast data using an encryption key distributed from the authentication server processor and receives decrypted multicast data in an application provided in the receiver terminal when the  
5 second user processor transmits the login requirement to the authentication server processor and when the authentication server processor permits login.

4. A multicast system according to claim 1, wherein a receiver terminal, other than the receiver terminal registered in the authentication server processor, is rejected an

- encryption key distribution from the authentication server processor when the second user processor transmits the login requirement to the authentication server processor and
- 5 when the authentication server processor rejects the login requirement.

5. A multicast system according to claim 1, wherein the authentication server processor executes a logout when the second user processor in the receiver terminal does not receive a periodically distributed encryption key which is periodically generated by the authentication server processor and distributed to the receiver terminal.

6. A multicast system according to claim 5, wherein the second user processor transmits a logout requirement to the authentication server processor and the authentication server processor terminates user management when multicast data communication is terminated in an application in the receiver terminal.

7. An authentication server terminal comprising:

an authentication server processor;

a first receiving section for receiving a login requirement transmitted from a first user processor provided in a sender terminal which transmits multicast data;

- 5 a second receiving section for receiving a login requirement transmitted from a second user processor provided in a sender terminal which receives multicast data; and

a user registration information section for registering user's individual information, wherein the user uses the sender terminal,

- the sender terminal which is permitted login by the authentication server
- 10 processor encrypts multicast data and transmits encrypted multicast data, and the receiver terminal, which is registered as a user in the user registration

information section by the authentication server processor, is permitted login and receives multicast data.

8. A multicast receiver terminal management method comprising the steps of:
  - registering a user's individual information transmitted from a sender terminal;
  - receiving a login requirement transmitted from the sender terminal which transmits multicast data;
  - 5 managing the sender terminal which is permitted login so as to encrypt multicast data and to transmit encrypted multicast data;
  - receiving a login requirement transmitted from a receiver terminal which receives multicast data; and
  - managing the receiver terminal which is registered as a user in a user
- 10 registration information section by an authentication server processor, so as to be permitted login and to receive multicast data.
9. A storage medium which is readable by a computer, for storing a multicast receiver terminal management method program for conducting multicast data communication in a computer, the multicast receiver terminal management method program comprising the steps of:
  - 5 a registration step in which a user's individual information is registered, wherein the user uses a sender terminal;
  - a receiving step in which a login requirement, transmitted from the sender terminal which transmits multicast data, is received;
  - a managing step in which the sender terminal, which is permitted login, is
  - 10 managed so as to encrypt multicast data and to transmit encrypted multicast data;

a receiving step in which a login requirement, transmitted from the sender terminal which receives multicast data, is received;

a managing step in which a receiver terminal, which is registered as a user in a user registration information section by an authentication server processor, is managed

15 so as to be permitted to login and to receive multicast data.